

ABSTRACT

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LASER SHOCK PEENING

In a laser shock peening process, the shape of the ~~spot-26~~spot generated by the laser ~~beam-4~~beam is changed on the fly. This is achieved, for example, by a masking ~~device-30~~device which is movable into and out of the path of the laser ~~beam-4~~beam. Laser shock peening ~~spots-24~~spots can consequently be shaped so as to avoid the spots overlapping an edge of the workpiece, or any other feature which may be damaged by the laser energy.